Nanette S. Edwards, Executive Director



Office of Regulatory Staff 1401 Main Street Suite 900 Columbia, SC 29201 (803) 737-0800 ORS.SC.GOV

C. LESSIE HAMMONDS

Counsel for ORS

August 20, 2019

VIA ELECTRONIC FILING

Jocelyn G. Boyd, Esquire Chief Clerk & Administrator Public Service Commission of South Carolina 101 Executive Center Drive, Suite 100 Columbia, South Carolina 29210

Re: Request for Certification of the Use of Universal Service Funds Pursuant to 47 C.F.R. 54.314 and Telecommunications Act Section 254(e), Federal Communications Commission CC Docket No. 96-45 (Form 481); and Annual Reports for ETC **Docket No. 2019-14-**C

Dear Ms. Boyd:

Pursuant to 10 S.C. Code Ann. Regs. 103-690.1. B (a), the South Carolina Office of Regulatory Staff ("ORS") files this report on the 2019 Annual Reporting for Eligible Telecommunications Carriers for Low Income and High Cost Support Reporting. Details of this report are as follows:

Wireless Carriers receiving High Cost Support:

FTC Communications, LLC d/b/a FTC Wireless ("FTC Wireless") is the only wireless carrier receiving federal high cost support. ORS has received and reviewed the Annual Report filed by FTC Communications, LLC d/b/a FTC Wireless. FTC Wireless also filed a copy of its FCC 481 report.

FTC Wireless provided information related to its operations for the year 2018-2019. FTC Wireless' report indicates that the federal support received by it is being used for the provision, maintenance and upgrading of facilities and services for which the support is intended. The Company reported that the company completed work on five cell towers. In addition, the report indicated that the company plans to make updates to other towers during the periods 2019-2020 and 2020-2021.

Letter – Jocelyn G. Boyd, Esquire Page **2** of **3** August 20, 2019

Mr. Jeffrey Lawrimore, Chief Financial Officer for FTC Communications, LLC, filed an Affidavit with the Public Service Commission of South Carolina ("Commission") certifying that all the federal high-cost support provided to FTC Wireless was used during the preceding year and will be used in the coming year only for the provision, maintenance, and upgrading facilities and services for which such support is intended.

Low Income Competitive Eligible Telecommunications Carriers ("CETCs"): The following Low Income (Lifeline only) CETCs have filed a report as required by Commission Regulation 103-690.1:

AirVoice Wireless, LLC d/b/a Feelsafe Wireless
Boomerang Wireless, LLC d/b/a enTouch Wireless
Global Connection, Inc. of America (Wireline)
Global Connection, Inc. of America d/b/a Stand Up Wireless
IM Telecom, LLC d/b/a Infiniti Mobile
i-wireless, LLC aka Access Wireless
Palmetto Telephone Communications, LLC (Wireline)
Q LINK WIRELESS, LLC
Sage Telecom Communications, LLC-TruConnect
TAG Mobile, LLC
Telrite Corporation d/b/a Life Wireless
TracFone Wireless/SafeLink Wireless
Virgin Mobile USA, L.P. aka: Assurance Wireless of South Carolina, LLC

The following Low Income (Lifeline only) CETCs have failed to file a report or failed to file a complete annual report as required:

American Broadband and Telecommunications Company Tele Circuit Network Corporation Tempo Telecom.

The ORS has communicated with the non-compliant CETCs concerning the required annual report. Since the carrier receives federal funding, ORS recommends that the Commission suspend the ETC Designation of the non-compliant carriers for thirty (30) days to allow the carriers to resolve their non-compliance or to notify their customers of the impending revocation of their ETC designation. The customer notification will allow customers to seek alternative Lifeline service. For those CETCs who remain out of compliance at the end of the thirty (30) day period, ORS recommends the Commission revoke the carrier's ETC designation and send notification of the revocation to the FCC.

Letter – Jocelyn G. Boyd, Esquire Page **3** of **3** August 20, 2019

Thank you for your consideration in this matter and please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any concerns regarding the matter above.

Sincerely,

C. Lessie Hammonds

cc: Joseph Melchers, Esquire (via E-mail) Other Parties of Record (via E-mail)